109TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H. R. 5553

To amend section 115 of title 17, United States Code, to provide for licensing of digital delivery of musical works, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 8, 2006

Mr. Smith of Texas (for himself and Mr. Berman) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend section 115 of title 17, United States Code, to provide for licensing of digital delivery of musical works, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
- 4 This Act may be cited as the "Section 115 Reform
- 5 Act of 2006".
- 6 SEC. 2. STATUTORY LICENSES FOR DIGITAL DELIVERY OF
- 7 MUSICAL WORKS.
- 8 Section 115 of title 17, United States Code, is
- 9 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
- 10 section:

1	"(e) Licenses for Digital Uses of Musical
2	Works.—
3	"(1) In general.—The compulsory license for
4	digital phonorecord deliveries and hybrid offerings
5	shall be governed by this subsection, in addition to
6	subsections (a), (c), and (d). The license under this
7	subsection covers—
8	"(A) the making and distribution of gen-
9	eral and incidental digital phonorecord deliv-
10	eries in the form of full downloads, limited
11	downloads, interactive streams, and any other
12	form constituting a digital phonorecord delivery
13	or hybrid offering; and
14	"(B) all reproduction and distribution
15	rights necessary to engage in activities de-
16	scribed in subparagraph (A), solely for the pur-
17	pose of engaging in such activities under the li-
18	cense, including—
19	"(i) the making of reproductions by
20	and for end users;
21	"(ii) reproductions made on servers
22	under the authority of the licensee; and
23	"(iii) incidental reproductions made
24	under the authority of the license in the
25	normal course of engaging in activities de-

1	scribed in subparagraph (A), including
2	cached, network, and RAM buffer repro-
3	ductions.
4	"(2) Blanket licenses.—A person may ob-
5	tain a compulsory license to engage in activities sub-
6	ject to this subsection only from a designated agent
7	under paragraph (4) and only if the person is a dig-
8	ital music provider. A person may engage in activi-
9	ties subject to this subsection under authority of a
10	compulsory license only—
11	"(A) if the license was obtained by a dig-
12	ital music provider; and
13	"(B) with respect to end users with which
14	the digital music provider meets the require-
15	ments of paragraph (14)(C).
16	"(3) Royalty-free license.—
17	"(A) In general.—A compulsory license
18	shall be available for the making of server and
19	incidental reproductions to facilitate noninter-
20	active streaming.
21	"(B) Activities covered.—Each des-
22	ignated agent shall grant a license under this
23	subsection for the making of server and inci-
24	dental reproductions to facilitate noninteractive
25	streaming at a royalty-free rate. The designated

agent may charge only a filing fee of not more than \$30 to administer the issuance of the license. The license shall cover reproductions made on servers under authority of the licensee and incidental reproductions made under the authority of the licensee in the course of the noninteractive streaming, including cached, network, and RAM buffer reproductions, to the extent reasonably necessary for, and solely for the purpose of, engaging in noninteractive streaming under the license in a technologically reasonable and efficient matter.

"(C) EXCLUDED ACTIVITIES.—The license under subparagraph (A) does not extend to any server or incidental reproductions used to enable a streaming service (or any other type of service) that takes affirmative steps to authorize, enable, cause, or induce the making of reproductions of musical works by or for end users that are accessible by those end users for future listening, unless a valid license for reproduction and distribution rights has otherwise been obtained by the streaming or other type of service permitting the server or incidental reproductions to be used for that activity.

"(4) APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSES.—Any digital music provider seeking a license under this subsection may apply to a designated agent for the license, identifying in the application each type of qualifying activity for which the license is sought. Any digital music provider that has a license under this subsection and seeks to engage in any activity covered by this subsection that is not identified in the license may engage in that activity only upon filing a new application identifying the additional activity.

"(5) LICENSES.—All activities specified in an application filed under paragraph (4) for which a license is available under this subsection shall be licensed by the designated agent. The license shall be effective, upon the filing of the application, for all copyrighted nondramatic musical works (or shares of such musical works) represented by the designated agent.

"(6) Retroactive royalty payments.—

"(A) RETROACTIVE PAYMENTS.—A digital music provider that has obtained a license from a designated agent under this subsection for—

"(i) the making and distribution of

"(i) the making and distribution of limited downloads, or

1	"(ii) the making or distribution of
2	interactive streams,
3	may report to the designated agent activity au-

may report to the designated agent activity authorized by the license that the digital music provider engaged in during the period beginning January 1, 2001, and ending on January 1, 2008, and pay to the designated agent royalties applicable to that activity. Such reporting and payments shall be made not later than March 1, 2008, in accordance with the regulations issued under paragraph (10) regarding reporting and payments.

- "(B) LIMITATION ON LIABILITY.—A digital music provider that reports activity and makes payments under this paragraph for an activity under this paragraph shall not be subject to an action for copyright infringement alleging violation of reproduction or distribution rights to the extent such action is based on activity so reported for which all payments due have been made.
- "(C) EFFECT ON ROYALTY-FREE LI-CENSE.—A digital music provider that complies with the requirements of this paragraph is entitled to a royalty-free license under paragraph

1 (3)(A) for the activity reported under subpara-2 graph (A), retroactive to January 1, 2001.

"(7) LICENSE NOT TRANSFERABLE.—A license granted to a digital music provider under this subsection may not be transferred to any other person or entity.

"(8) ROYALTY RATES AND TERMS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this paragraph, the Copyright Royalty Judges shall determine reasonable rates and terms for digital phonorecord deliveries and hybrid offerings as provided under subsection (c) and chapter 8, except for server and incidental reproductions for noninteractive streaming that are eligible for royalty-free licenses under this subsection.

"(B) RATES AND TERMS IN EFFECT.—
Rates and terms in effect under subsection (c) on the effective date of the Section 115 Reform Act of 2006 for any activity for which a license is available under this section shall continue to apply to that activity on and after that date until a new rate is determined under subsection (c) and chapter 8.

1	"(C) Payment.—Licensees under this
2	subsection shall make payments of royalty rates
3	and terms to the designated agents as directed
4	by the Copyright Royalty Judges.
5	"(D) RATES AND TERMS FOR NEW LI-
6	CENSE ACTIVITIES.—
7	"(i) In general.—Not later than
8	December 1, 2007, the Copyright Royalty
9	Judges shall initiate a ratemaking pro-
10	ceeding, pursuant to the procedures set
11	forth in chapter 8, to determine a final
12	rate and terms for any activity for which
13	a license is available under this subsection
14	if—
15	"(I) a final rate and terms have
16	not been established for the activity as
17	of that date; or
18	"(II) the activity is not the sub-
19	ject of a proceeding to set a final rate
20	and terms under subsection (c) that is
21	pending before the Copyright Royalty
22	Judges on that date.
23	"(ii) Pending proceedings.—In
24	any case in which a proceeding is pending
25	before the Copyright Royalty Judges, on

December 1, 2007, to determine final rates and terms under subsection (c) for any activity for which a license is available under this subsection, the Copyright Royalty Judges may expand and adjust the schedule of the proceeding to cover rates and terms for any activity described in clause (i), in lieu of initiating a proceeding under clause (i) with respect to that activity, if so expanding and adjusting the schedule of the proceeding will not unduly prejudice any party to the proceeding and will not delay the final determination of rates and terms by the Copyright Royalty Judges by more than 90 days.

"(iii) Participation of designated agents, and any other parties who have a significant interest, within the meaning of section 804(a), in the applicable royalty rate, are entitled to participate in a proceeding under this subparagraph relating to activities licensed under this subsection.

"(E) Interim rates.—

1	"(i) In general.—For any activity
2	for which a license is available under this
3	subsection and for which a rate and terms
4	have not been determined under subsection
5	(c), a digital music provider shall, upon fil-
6	ing a valid application with the relevant
7	designated agent, have a license under this
8	subsection to engage in the activity, sub-
9	ject to clause (ii).
10	"(ii) Interim rates and terms.—
11	Upon the filing of an application under
12	clause (i)—
13	"(I) the digital music provider
14	and the designated agent may nego-
15	tiate an interim rate and terms that
16	will apply to the activity under the li-
17	cense; or
18	"(II) the digital music provider
19	or the designated agent, or both, may
20	apply to the Copyright Royalty
21	Judges for an interim rate and terms,
22	in which case—
23	"(aa) the Copyright Royalty
24	Judges shall, not later than 15
25	days after the application is

1	made, publish notice of an expe-
2	dited proceeding to determine the
3	interim rate and terms; and
4	"(bb) the Judges shall de-
5	termine the interim rate and
6	terms not less than 30 days and
7	not more than 60 days after pub-
8	lishing the notice, through the
9	expedited proceeding.
10	"(iii) Applicability of interim
11	RATES AND TERMS.—(I) An interim rate
12	and terms negotiated under clause (ii)(I)
13	or established under clause (ii)(II) shall
14	apply to the activity under the license con-
15	cerned until a final rate and terms for the
16	activity are determined under subpara-
17	graph (D), or as otherwise agreed by the
18	parties.
19	"(II) An interim rate and terms de-
20	scribed in clause (i) with respect to an ac-
21	tivity by a digital music provider shall not
22	be treated as precedent in a final rate-
23	making proceeding. If the Copyright Roy-
24	alty Judges have established an interim
25	rate and terms under clause (ii)(II), sub-

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ject to clause (iv), that rate and those terms shall apply to the same activity engaged in by any digital music provider, except as otherwise agreed to by the parties.

"(iv) SINGLE PROCEEDING FOR EACH ACTIVITY.—Unless the Copyright Royalty Judges determine that there is good cause to review an interim rate established under clause (ii)(II), the Judges may conduct only 1 proceeding to determine an interim rate and terms for an activity for which a license is available under this subsection.

"(v) ADJUSTMENT OF INTERIM RATES.—After a determination of a final rate and terms that will apply to an activity for which a license is available under this subsection has been made under subparagraph (D), the final rate and terms shall be retroactive to the inception of the activity under all licenses to which such rate and terms apply, unless an agreement between the parties to a license provides otherwise. Not later than 60 days after the determination of the final rate becomes effective—

1	"(I) the digital music provider
2	shall pay to the designated agent any
3	amounts due from underpayment of
4	fees by the digital music provider be-
5	cause the final rate exceeds the in-
6	terim rate; or
7	"(II) the designated agent shall
8	refund to the digital music provider
9	the amounts of any overpayment of
10	fees by the digital music provider be-
11	cause the interim rate exceed the final
12	rate, or, at the election of the digital
13	music provider, the designated agent
14	shall credit such overpayment against
15	future payments by the digital music
16	provider to the designated agent
17	under this subsection.
18	"(9) Designated agents.—
19	"(A) In General.—Designated agents
20	under this subsection are the General Des-
21	ignated Agent and additional designated agents.
22	"(B) General designated agent.—
23	"(i) Designation and Purpose.—
24	(I) Not later than August 1, 2007, the
25	Register of Copyrights shall designate a

1 mechanical licensing and collection agency 2 representing music publishing entities that 3 represent the greatest share of the music 4 publishing market, as measured by the amount of royalties collected during the 6 preceding 3 full calendar years with re-7 spect to the use of copyrighted musical 8 works pursuant to this section, to establish 9 and operate the General Designated Agent. 10 "(II) The General Designated Agent 11 shall grant and administer licenses and col-12 lect and distribute royalties payable for the 13 use of musical works licensed under this 14 subsection. 15 "(III) The General Designated Agent

"(III) The General Designated Agent shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of representatives of at least 5 music publishing entities.

"(ii) DECERTIFICATION.—The Register of Copyrights may disqualify the General Designated Agent upon a showing that it fails to meet the qualifications under this subparagraph or otherwise fails to meet the requirements under this paragraph. In such a case, the Register of

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1	Copyrights shall designate another General
2	Designated Agent that most closely meets
3	the requirements of clause (i)(I).
4	"(C) Additional designated agents.—
5	"(i) CERTIFICATION.—The Register of
6	Copyrights shall certify as an additional
7	designated agent to represent copyright
8	owners for purposes of licenses under this
9	subsection any entity that demonstrates
10	that—
11	"(I) upon certification, it will
12	represent music publishing entities
13	that represent at least a 15 percent
14	share of the music publishing market,
15	as measured by the amount of royal-
16	ties collected during the preceding 3
17	full calendar years with respect to the
18	use of copyrighted musical works pur-
19	suant to this section; and
20	"(II) it has the capability to per-
21	form the required functions of a des-
22	ignated agent under this subsection.
23	"(ii) Duties.—(I) Upon certification
24	under clause (i), an additional designated
25	agent shall represent any copyright owners

1 of musical works who elect to have the ad-2 ditional designated agent represent them and the musical works (or shares of musi-3 cal works) owned or controlled by such copyright owners for purposes of the li-6 censes under this subsection. 7 "(II) Each additional designated 8 agent shall notify the General Designated 9 Agent and any other additional designated 10 agent of each copyright owner, and the 11 musical works (or shares of musical works) 12 owned or controlled by the copyright 13 owner, that the additional designated agent 14 represents pursuant to subclause (I). 15 "(III) Any election under subclause 16 (I) is effective only if it is made in writing, 17 a copy of which shall be made available to 18 any other designated agent upon a reason-19 able request therefor. 20 "(iii) Decertification.—The Register of Copyrights may remove the certifi-21 22 cation of any additional designated agent 23 upon a showing that it fails to meet the

qualifications under this subparagraph or

1	otherwise fails to meet the requirements
2	under this paragraph.
3	"(D) AUTHORITIES OF DESIGNATED
4	AGENTS.—A designated agent may—
5	"(i) engage in activities pursuant to
6	this subsection;
7	"(ii) engage in such additional activi-
8	ties in the interest of music publishers and
9	songwriters as the designated agent con-
10	siders appropriate, including industry ne-
11	gotiations, ratesetting proceedings, litiga-
12	tion, and legislative efforts; and
13	"(iii) apply any administrative fees or
14	other funds it collects to support the activi-
15	ties described in clauses (i) and (ii).
16	"(E) Elections by copyright own-
17	ERS.—
18	"(i) Representation by single
19	DESIGNATED AGENT.—Each copyright
20	owner, and the musical works (or shares of
21	musical works) that the copyright owner
22	owns or controls, may be represented by
23	only one designated agent during any cal-
24	endar year.

1	"(ii) Annual enrollment pe-
2	RIOD.—
3	"(I) IN GENERAL.—Each copy-
4	right owner may, during the month of
5	September of each year, elect to
6	change the designated agent to rep-
7	resent the owner and the musical
8	works (or shares of musical works) re-
9	ferred to in clause (i), beginning on
10	January 1 of the succeeding calendar
11	year.
12	"(II) SELECTION.—A copyright
13	owner may choose only one designated
14	agent during the month of September
15	of each year. If the designated agent
16	chosen is not certified pursuant to
17	subparagraph (C)(i) or is decertified
18	pursuant to subparagraph (C)(iii), the
19	copyright owner and the musical
20	works (or shares) referred to in clause
21	(i) shall be represented by the General
22	Designated Agent for the succeeding
23	calendar year.
24	"(iii) Effect on licenses.—A des-
25	ignated agent's representation of the musi-

cal works (and shares of musical works) of any copyright owner who elects to change designated agents under clause (ii) shall terminate on December 31 of the year in which the election is made, after which the musical works (and shares of musical works) of the copyright owner will become subject to the licenses in effect with the designated agent selected under clause (ii).

"(iv) Default representation by General Designated agent.—If a copyright owner does not choose to be represented by an additional designated agent, the General Designated Agent shall represent the copyright owner and musical works (or shares of musical works) owned or controlled by the copyright owner.

"(v) Voluntary agreements.—A copyright owner and a digital music provider may enter into a voluntary license agreement pursuant to subsection (c)(3)(E)(i) to cover activities licensed under this subsection. Any such agreement shall apply in lieu of a blanket license under this subsection with respect to those

1 musical works (or shares of musical works) 2 and activities covered by the agreement 3 during the period that the agreement is in effect. The royalty fees due for usage of musical works (or shares of musical works) 6 under a blanket license under this sub-7 section shall be reduced in proportion to 8 the usage covered under such a voluntary 9 license agreement. Each designated agent 10 shall establish procedures by which copy-11 right owners and licensees shall be re-12 quired to notify the designated agent of 13 the existence of voluntary license agree-14 ments upon which they are relying in lieu 15 of the blanket license. Such procedures 16 shall include appropriate measures to pro-17 tect confidential information of licensees.

"(F) Notice of Designated Agents.—
At least 90 days before beginning operations,
the General Designated Agent and any interested party wishing to serve as a designated
agent shall file with the Copyright Office a notice of intent to operate as a designated agent
under this subsection. The notice shall contain
such contact information, and such information

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1	concerning applications for licenses under this
2	subsection and access to the electronic database
3	of the designated agent (described in subpara-
4	graph (H)(i)) identifying musical works (or
5	shares of musical works) represented by the
6	designated agent, as required in regulations
7	issued to carry out this subsection. The Copy-
8	right Office shall make each notice filed under
9	this subparagraph available to the public on the
10	Internet.
11	"(G) TERMINATION OF DESIGNATED
12	AGENT.—
13	"(i) Notice and transfer of
14	RECORDS.—At least 180 days before termi-
15	nating operations, a designated agent
16	shall—
17	"(I) notify the Copyright Office,
18	all of its licensees under this sub-
19	section, all of the copyright owners
20	represented by the designated agent
21	for the purposes of this subsection,
22	and all other designated agents of its
23	intent to terminate operations; and
24	"(II) transfer electronic and
25	other copies of all relevant records to

the existing General Designated Agent
or, in the case of the termination of
the General Designated Agent, to the
successor General Designated Agent.

"(ii) Assumption of Duties by GDA.—Upon the termination of operations of a designated agent, the General Designated Agent or successor General Designated Agent, as the case may be, shall assume the administration of the musical works and rights previously administered by the terminated designated agent, regardless of whether the terminated agent has complied with clause (i).

"(H) Musical works data.—

"(i) AVAILABILITY.—The General Designated Agent and each additional designated agent shall maintain and make available to licensees, free of charge, a searchable electronic database of information from which licensees can determine which musical works (or shares of musical works) are available for licensing under this subsection through that designated agent. Any musical work (or shares of a

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musical work) not identified as being represented by the General Designated Agent or any additional designated agent in any such database may be presumed by licensees to be represented by the General Designated Agent.

"(ii) Use of database BY DES-IGNATED AGENTS AND LICENSEES.—Subject to the public access described under clause (iii), the database required by clause (i) may be used by designated agents and licensees only for purposes of determining the identity and availability of musical works for licenses under this subsection, obtaining such licenses, reporting of use of musical works, payment of royalties, and otherwise to comply with licenses under this subsection, except that a designated agent may use or make the database it maintains available for other purposes relating to musical works or music publishers. The Copyright Royalty Judges shall, in establishing cost-sharing amounts pursuant to paragraph (12), consider the value and benefit of any such other pur-

poses to the designated agent and the copyright owners it represents. The use of any such database shall be subject to reasonable confidentiality and security standards prescribed in regulations to carry out this subsection.

"(iii) Public access to data-Base.—The General Designated Agent and each designated agent shall make relevant portions of the database required by clause (i) available free of charge to the general public to access information concerning specific musical works that are represented by the designated agent, subject to reasonable terms and conditions of use as may be prescribed by the Register of Copyrights.

"(I) Letters of direction.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—A designated agent shall comply with a letter of direction submitted under clause (ii) or (iii) which instructs the designated agent to pay all or part of the royalties otherwise payable to the copyright owner to another person.

copyright owner that receives an advance payment from a sound recording company under a contract entered into before June 1, 2006, that has not been recouped by the sound recording company shall, at the request of the sound recording company, submit a letter of direction to a designated agent instructing the designated agent to pay royalties otherwise payable to the copyright owner to the sound recording company until such time as the advance payment made by the sound recording company to the copyright owner is recouped by the sound recording company.

"(iii) MISSING COPYRIGHT OWNER.—
In any case in which a sound recording company is, after reasonable efforts, unable to locate a copyright owner that received an advance payment from the sound recording company that has not fully been recouped by the sound recording company, the sound recording company may submit a letter of direction to a designated agent directing the designated agent to pay roy-

1	alties that would be due the copyright
2	owner to the sound recording company.
3	"(10) ROYALTY REPORTING AND COMPLI-
4	ANCE.—
5	"(A) Requirements.—
6	"(i) In GENERAL.—Each licensee
7	under this subsection shall, on a quarterly
8	basis and in electronic format, report its
9	usage of musical works under the license,
10	and make royalty payments by reason of
11	such usage, to the applicable designated
12	agent.
13	"(ii) Limitation on disclosure.—
14	"(I) In general.—A designated
15	agent may disclose information re-
16	ceived under clause (i) to a recipient
17	of royalty payments made by a li-
18	censee only with respect to musical
19	works owned or controlled by the re-
20	cipient. The designated agent may not
21	disclose such information to any other
22	person in a form that can be readily
23	associated with a licensee except to
24	the extent permitted by written agree-
25	ment of the licensee.

1	"(II) Exception.—Subclause (I)
2	does not prevent a designated agent
3	from providing information with re-
4	spect to a licensee—
5	"(aa) to the legal and finan-
6	cial advisors of the designated
7	agent or to an accountant or
8	auditor rendering services relat-
9	ing to this subsection; or
10	"(bb) to the extent nec-
11	essary in connection with a bona
12	fide dispute or legal claim or pro-
13	ceeding.
14	"(iii) Interest.—
15	"(I) IN GENERAL.—A licensee
16	who has failed to make a payment re-
17	quired under this subsection by the
18	due date to a designated agent (in-
19	cluding as specified in a notice of pay-
20	ment deficiency or default, as deter-
21	mined in a royalty compliance exam-
22	ination under subparagraph (B), or as
23	required by a determination of the
24	Copyright Royalty Judges), shall pay
25	to the designated agent interest on

1 the overdue amount, at the Federal 2 funds rate plus 5 percent, such inter-3 est to accrue monthly from the date payment was due until the date payment is received by the designated 6 agent. "(II) 7 DEFINITION.—In this clause, the term 'Federal funds rate' 8 9 means the interest rate established by 10 the Federal Reserve at which deposi-11 tory institutions lend balances at the 12 Federal Reserve to other depository 13 institutions overnight. The Federal 14 funds rate for any 1-month period 15 during which interest accrues under 16 clause (i) is the Federal funds rate in 17 effect on the first day of that 1-month 18 period. 19 "(iv) Promotional USE.—A licensee 20 under this subsection shall not be required to report or pay under this subsection for 21 22 a free promotional use of a musical work 23 that is authorized by the copyright owner

of the musical work.

1	"(B) ROYALTY COMPLIANCE EXAMINA-
2	TIONS.—A designated agent may, upon pro-
3	viding written notice to its licensee under this
4	subsection, conduct a royalty compliance exam-
5	ination of the licensee, subject to the following:
6	"(i) A designated agent may conduct
7	only 1 examination of any licensee in a cal-
8	endar year, and may conduct an examina-
9	tion of a licensee with respect to a report-
10	ing period only once. A designated agent
11	may conduct an examination jointly with
12	one or more other designated agents.
13	"(ii) The examination may begin only
14	within 18 months after the end of the pe-
15	riod being examined and may only cover a
16	period of not less than 2 and not more
17	than 4 consecutive years, except that an
18	examination may cover a period of—
19	"(I) more than 4 years if the ex-
20	amination includes activities subject
21	to retroactive payments under para-
22	graph (6);
23	"(II) a period of less than 2
24	vears if—

1	"(aa) the licensee's license
2	has been terminated;
3	"(bb) the licensee has de-
4	faulted in its reporting or pay-
5	ments under this paragraph; or
6	"(cc) the licensee has termi-
7	nated or is about to terminate
8	operations, has filed or indicated
9	an intent to file for bankruptcy,
10	or has transferred or indicated
11	an intent to transfer its assets to
12	a third party; or
13	"(III) a period of less than 2
14	years or more than 4 years, if for
15	other good cause the examination can-
16	not reasonably cover a period of 2 to
17	4 years.
18	"(iii) At the conclusion of the exam-
19	ination, the designated agent shall, after
20	considering any written rebuttal provided
21	by the licensee during the examination,
22	provide a written notice to the licensee set-
23	ting forth the designated agent's final de-
24	termination of the claim, if any, resulting
25	from the examination.

1	"(iv) The designated agent shall bear	
2	the costs of the examination, except that,	
3	if the licensee underpaid royalty fees by 10	
4	percent or more, the licensee shall bear the	
5	reasonable costs of the examination.	
6	"(v) A licensee may not assert section	
7	507 of this title or any other Federal or	
8	State statute of limitations, doctrine of	
9	laches or estoppel, or similar provision to	
10	avoid a royalty examination under this	
11	subparagraph, or as a defense to a legal	
12	action arising from such a royalty exam-	
13	ination, if the legal action is commenced	
14	within 18 months after the final deter-	
15	mination by the designated agent of the	
16	claim (as stated in the written notice under	
17	clause (iii)) resulting from the examination	
18	that is the basis for such action.	
19	"(C) Failure to report or pay royal-	
20	TIES.—	
21	"(i) IN GENERAL.—If a licensee under	
22	this subsection—	
23	"(I) fails to provide a quarterly	
24	report when due or fails to provide a	

1	quarterly report in compliance with
2	the error tolerance standard, or
3	"(II) fails to make all quarterly
4	royalty payments when due or fails to
5	pay royalties due for reported usage,
6	the designated agent may provide written
7	notice to the licensee describing the default
8	under subclause (I) or (II) and providing
9	that if the default is not remedied within
10	30 days after receipt of the notice, the li-
11	cense will automatically terminate upon the
12	expiration of that 30-day period. Upon
13	such termination, the licensee will be sub-
14	ject to an infringement action as provided
15	in subsection $(c)(6)$ with respect to the
16	uses of the musical works that are the sub-
17	ject of the default.
18	"(ii) Failure with respect to in-
19	DIVIDUAL WORK.—
20	"(I) Exclusion from li-
21	CENSE.—If a licensee with an other-
22	wise valid license under this sub-
23	section—
24	"(aa) has not made the re-
25	quired reports or royalty pay-

1	ments under subparagraph (A)(i)
2	for a musical work covered by the
3	license, or
4	"(bb) upon being sent writ-
5	ten notice from the designated
6	agent of a valid reporting or pay-
7	ment deficiency with respect to
8	the use of a musical work, fails
9	to remedy that deficiency within
10	the specified cure period,
11	that work is excluded from the scope
12	of the license until such time as the li-
13	censee provides all the reports that
14	are past due, and makes all royalty
15	payments that are past due, to the
16	designated agent for that work, or the
17	designated agent otherwise identifies
18	the work, determines the usage of the
19	work, and has received from the li-
20	censee all royalty payments for the
21	work that are past due.
22	"(II) Specified cure pe-
23	RIOD.—For purposes of subclause
24	(I)(bb), the "specified cure period"
25	means, with respect to a licensee—

1	"(aa) 90 days, during the
2	first 12 month-period in which
3	the licensee engages in activities
4	under a license under this sub-
5	section;
6	"(bb) 60 days, during the
7	succeeding 12-month period in
8	which a licensee engages in ac-
9	tivities under a license under this
10	subsection; and
11	"(cc) 30 days, during any
12	period thereafter.
13	"(III) Exception.—If the li-
14	censee demonstrates to the designated
15	agent with respect to a musical work
16	that is the subject of a notice of defi-
17	ciency described in subclause (I)(bb)
18	that the deficiency cannot be remedied
19	because it is due to missing informa-
20	tion that, notwithstanding a diligent
21	search by the licensee, is actually and
22	objectively unobtainable by the li-
23	censee from any known source, then
24	the license shall not be invalidated

1	with respect to that work, if all royal-
2	ties due for that work have been paid.
3	"(iii) Obtaining subsequent li-
4	CENSES.—A licensee whose license is ter-
5	minated by a designated agent under
6	clause (i) and who fully remedies the de-
7	fault within 60 days after the date on
8	which the license terminates, may apply for
9	and obtain a new license from that des-
10	ignated agent, if, during the 5-year period
11	ending on the date of such termination, the
12	licensee has not previously had a license
13	terminated by the designated agent. In any
14	other case in which a license is validly ter-
15	minated by a designated agent, the des-
16	ignated agent may require the licensee to
17	meet reasonable credit or advance require-
18	ments or to demonstrate the capability to
19	report and make royalty payments in com-
20	pliance with this subsection before obtain-
21	ing a new license.
22	"(11) Distribution of royalties, un-
23	CLAIMED FUNDS, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION.—
24	"(A) DISTRIBUTION OF ROYALTIES.—Each
25	designated agent shall be responsible for dis-

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tributing royalties collected from licensees under this subsection to any copyright owner whom the designated agent represents and who has provided the designated agent with sufficient information to identify and pay that copyright owner (or the copyright owner's designee).

"(B) Unclaimed funds.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—If a designated agent is unable, after a reasonably diligent search, to identify or locate a copyright owner entitled to receive royalties under subparagraph (A), the designated agent may deposit the undistributed royalties (in this subparagraph referred to as 'unclaimed funds') into an unclaimed funds account that interest, earns accrued monthly, at the Federal short term rate determined under section 1274(d)(1)(C)(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Interest accrued on unclaimed funds shall be payable to a copyright owner upon distribution of the unclaimed funds to such copyright owner.

"(ii) Holding and distribution.—

1	"(I) Holding.—A designated
2	agent with unclaimed funds shall hold
3	the funds for a period of at least 3
4	years after the date on which the li-
5	censee paid the funds. The designated
6	agent shall make reasonably diligent
7	efforts to publicize the existence of the
8	unclaimed funds and the procedures
9	by which copyright owners may claim
10	such funds from the designated agent.
11	"(II) LICENSING ADMINISTRA-
12	TIVE COSTS.—At the end of the pe-
13	riod in which funds are held under
14	subclause (I), the designated agent
15	may apply the funds to offset licens-
16	ing administrative costs.
17	"(III) DISTRIBUTION OF RE-
18	MAINDER.—Any unclaimed funds not
19	applied to offset licensing administra-
20	tive costs under subclause (II) shall
21	be distributed as follows:
22	"(aa) The designated agent
23	shall pay to every other des-
24	ignated agent its pro rata share
25	of the unclaimed funds as deter-

1	mined on the basis of the propor-
2	tionate distribution of royalties
3	by each designated agent to copy-
4	right owners for the reporting pe-
5	riods during which the funds
6	were collected.
7	"(bb) Each designated agent
8	shall distribute, on an equitable
9	basis, its pro rata share of the
10	unclaimed funds to the copyright
11	owners that the designated agent
12	represents under this subsection
13	(other than those that cannot be
14	identified or located).
15	"(iii) Preemption.—This subpara-
16	graph preempts any State law (including
17	common law) that would otherwise apply
18	concerning escheatment or abandoned or
19	unclaimed property.
20	"(C) DISPUTES.—Each designated agent
21	shall establish a committee that includes an
22	equal number of—
23	"(i) representatives of music pub-
24	lishing entities represented by the des-
25	ignated agent, and

"(ii) songwriters with musical works represented by the designated agent who are not members of the board of directors, governing body, or management of the designated agent,

by a copyright owner relating to the allocation and payment by the designated agent of royalties to such copyright owner under a license obtained from the designated agent under this subsection. The dispute resolution process shall not affect any other legal or equitable rights or remedies available to any copyright owner or the designated agent.

"(D) PROCEDURES.—The Register of Copyrights shall establish by regulation the procedures for the holding by a designated agent of unclaimed funds and royalties paid under this subsection that are attributable to musical works that are the subject of a legal dispute or proceeding. A designated agent that complies with the requirements of this paragraph and such regulations shall not be subject to a legal claim based upon or arising from unclaimed

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funds or an ownership dispute or legal proceeding.

"(E) DOCUMENTATION.—A songwriter whose musical works (or shares thereof) are administered by a music publisher for licensing under this subsection (including those represented through default representation pursuant to paragraph (9)(E)(iv) may request from a designated agent a copy of the relevant portions of any royalty statement that the designated agent provided, within the preceding 4 calendar years, to that publisher, and that shows all data provided by the designated agent to the publisher regarding the use and royalties distributed to the publisher in connection with those works (or shares thereof). A designated agent shall provide the information requested by the songwriter within a reasonable time after receiving the request. A songwriter may make such a request of a particular designated agent not more than once each calendar year.

"(F) WITHHOLDING OF INTERIM ROYAL-TIES.—Each designated agent may withhold reasonable reserves from the distribution of interim royalties collected under this subsection

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to allow for the possibility of a lower final statutory rate. Upon final determination of the statutory rate, to the extent such reserves are not required to be returned or credited to the licensee, the designated agent shall distribute to copyright owners such reserves with interest.

"(12) Cost sharing fees.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Copyright Royalty Judges shall determine, under such procedures as they may establish, an appropriate cost-sharing mechanism and cost-sharing amounts to be paid by licensees under this subsection to designated agents. Not later than February 1, 2007, the Copyright Royalty Judges shall initiate a proceeding to determine, not later than May 1, 2007, appropriate interim cost-sharing amounts to apply pending the establishment of final cost-sharing amounts. Any cost-sharing mechanism orcost-sharing amounts shall be equitably applied to all designated agents. In determining a cost-sharing mechanism or cost-sharing amount under this paragraph, the Copyright Royalty Judges shall consider—

1	"(i)(I) the actual, reasonable costs of
2	creating and maintaining an infrastructure
3	for activities of designated agents under
4	this subsection;
5	"(II) any nonmonetary contributions
6	by the parties to such infrastructures, in-
7	cluding contributions of data and services;
8	"(III) the actual, reasonable costs to
9	designated agents specifically associated
10	with the administration of licenses under
11	this subsection;
12	"(IV) the nature and value of any col-
13	lateral benefits that any party may realize
14	from the blanket license and blanket li-
15	cense system created by this subsection;
16	and
17	"(V) any other factors deemed rel-
18	evant by the Copyright Royalty Judges.
19	"(B) Cost-sharing not a factor in
20	ROYALTY RATES.—The Copyright Royalty
21	Judges, in establishing royalty rates for statu-
22	tory licenses, may not take into account the
23	cost-sharing mechanism or cost-sharing
24	amounts under subparagraph (A).
25	"(13) Exclusion from blanket licenses.—

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"(A) IN GENERAL.—A sound recording company may, by written notice to the appropriate designated agent, exclude a musical work from a compulsory license under paragraph (2) if the musical work is the subject of a contract described in subsection (c)(3)(E)(ii).

"(B) Exclusion errors.—

"(i) Not excluded.—In any case in which a musical work could have been excluded pursuant to subparagraph (A) but was not due to uncertainty concerning ownership of the copyright of the musical work or the application of a contract described in subsection (c)(3)(E)(ii), or in any case in which a digital music provider makes payments to a designated agent for use of a musical work excluded under subparagraph (A), the designated agent shall make payments to the appropriate person as if the exclusion under subparagraph (A) had applied on the date of the enactment of the Section 115 Reform Act of 2006, unless an agreement between the designated agent and the appropriate person provides otherwise.

1	"(ii) Excluded.—In any case in
2	which a musical work was excluded pursu-
3	ant to subparagraph (A) in error—
4	"(I) a sound recording company
5	acting in good faith with regards to
6	the exclusion shall only be liable for
7	the payment of amounts that other-
8	wise would have been payable under
9	this subsection plus interest as de-
10	scribed in (10)(A)(iii)(II); and
11	"(II) a licensee acting in good
12	faith with regards to the exclusion
13	shall not be liable.
14	"(14) Definitions.—In this subsection:
15	"(A) Administrative fees.—The term
16	'administrative fees' means any fees that are
17	collected or deducted by a designated agent to
18	cover licensing administrative costs or other ad-
19	ministrative costs.
20	"(B) Copyright owner.—The term
21	'copyright owner' means a natural person or le-
22	gally recognized entity that owns or controls an
23	interest in one or more copyrighted nondra-
24	matic musical works subject to licensing under
25	this section.

1	"(C) DIGITAL MUSIC PROVIDER.—The
2	term 'digital music provider' means a person
3	that—
4	"(i) with respect to a service engaging
5	in activities licensed under this sub-
6	section—
7	"(I) contracts with or has a di-
8	rect economic relationship with the
9	end users of the service, and controls
10	what end users pay for the service;
11	"(II) controls how content is
12	bundled and offered through the serv-
13	ice;
14	"(III) is able to fully report on
15	all revenues and consideration gen-
16	erated by the service; and
17	"(IV) is able to fully report on all
18	elements of music usage by the service
19	(or procure such reporting); or
20	"(ii) makes and distributes a hybrid
21	offering.
22	"(D) Error Tolerance Standard.—
23	The term 'error tolerance standard' means the
24	maximum percentage, of all data that a licensee
25	is required to report under this subsection

under its license in any statutory reporting period, that is permitted to be inaccurate, unreadable, or missing, or any combination thereof, as determined under regulations issued to carry out this subsection.

- "(E) Full download.—The term 'full download' means a digital phonorecord delivery of a sound recording of a musical work that is not limited in availability for listening by the end user either to a period of time or a number of times the sound recording can be played.
- "(F) Hybrid offering.—The term 'hybrid offering' means a reproduction or distribution of a phonorecord in physical form subject to a compulsory license under this section where—

"(i) a digital transmission of data by or under the authority of the licensee is required to render the sound recording embodied on the phonorecord audible to the end user or to enable the continued rendering of the sound recording after a finite period of time or a specified number of times rendered; or

1	"(ii) the phonorecord is made by or
2	under the authority of the licensee at the
3	request of a user for distribution to that
4	user or the user's designee.
5	"(G) Interactive stream.—The term
6	'interactive stream'—
7	"(i) means a stream of a sound re-
8	cording of a musical work that does not
9	qualify for a statutory license under sec-
10	tion 114(d)(2) with respect to the sound
11	recording embodied therein; and
12	"(ii) subject to clause (i), includes a
13	stream of a particular sound recording of
14	a musical work that an end user has se-
15	lected, and is transmitted to such end user,
16	to listen to at or substantially at the time
17	of making such selection or at some future
18	time, whether or not as a part of a pro-
19	gram specially created for the end user.
20	"(H) LICENSING ADMINISTRATIVE
21	COSTS.—The term 'licensing administrative
22	costs' means the actual costs to a designated
23	agent that are attributable to the issuance and
24	administration of licenses under this subsection,
25	including—

1	"(i) costs in connection with the col-
2	lection and distribution of royalties under
3	this subsection;
4	"(ii) the costs of identifying and locat-
5	ing copyright owners and administering a
6	claims system for unidentified copyright
7	owners;
8	"(iii) the costs of royalty examinations
9	and other royalty compliance efforts; and
10	"(iv) the costs of creating and main-
11	taining an infrastructure for the activities
12	described in clauses (i), (ii), and (iii).
13	"(I) LIMITED DOWNLOAD.—the term 'lim-
14	ited download' means a digital phonorecord de-
15	livery of a sound recording of a musical work
16	that is only available for listening for—
17	"(i) a definite period of time (includ-
18	ing a period of time defined by ongoing
19	subscription payments made by an end
20	user); or
21	"(ii) a specified number of times.
22	"(J) Noninteractive streaming.—The
23	term 'noninteractive streaming' means the
24	radio-style streaming of sound recordings of
25	musical works for which a statutory license is

1	available with respect to the sound recordings
2	under section $114(d)(2)$.
3	"(K) OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—
4	The term 'Other administrative costs' means all
5	expenses, expenditures, retained earnings, and
6	reserves of a designated agent, other than li-
7	censing administrative costs, that are author-
8	ized by the board of directors of the designated
9	agent.
10	"(L) Songwriter.—The term 'songwriter'
11	means the author of a musical work.
12	"(M) Sound recording company.—The
13	term 'sound recording company' means a per-
14	son who is—
15	"(i) a copyright owner or who has
16	similar rights to a sound recording of a
17	musical work under the common law or
18	statues of any State with respect to a
19	sound recording fixed before February 15,
20	1972;
21	"(ii) an exclusive licensee of a sound
22	recording of a musical work; or
23	"(iii) performing the functions of mar-
24	keting and authorizing the distribution of
25	a sound recording of a musical work under

1	the authority of the copyright owner of the
2	musical work.
3	"(N) Stream.—(i) The term 'stream
4	means the digital transmission of a sound re-
5	cording embodying a musical work for one-time
6	listening by the end user using technology such
7	that the transmission is not intended or de-
8	signed to result in a substantially complete re-
9	production of the sound recording, other than
10	an incidental reproduction made in the norma
11	course of such activity, including a cached, net
12	work, or RAM buffer reproduction, to permit
13	such one-time listening.
14	"(ii) The term 'streaming' means the proc-
15	ess of making and distributing streams.
16	"(15) REGULATIONS.—The Register of Copy-
17	rights shall issue such regulations as are necessary
18	to carry out this subsection, including—
19	"(A) specifying the requirements and pro-
20	cedures for reporting and making payments
21	and conducting royalty compliance examina-
22	tions, under paragraph (10);
23	"(B) specifying the procedures for expe-
24	dited proceedings under paragraph
25	(8)(D)(ii)(II)(bb);

1	"(C) specifying the form of a letter of di-
2	rection under paragraph (9)(I)(i); and
3	"(D) facilitating exclusions from the blan-
4	ket license under paragraph (13).".
5	SEC. 3. PERFORMANCE RIGHT PRESERVED.
6	Section 115 of title 17, United States Code, is
7	amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
8	section:
9	"(f) Performance Right Preserved.—The rights
10	granted under subsection (e) shall not include, limit, or
11	otherwise affect any right of public performance of a musi-
12	cal work. The third sentence of subsection (e)(9)(E)(v)
13	and the definitions contained in paragraph (14) of sub-
14	section (e) shall not be taken into account in any adminis-
15	trative, judicial, or other governmental proceeding to set
16	or adjust the royalties payable to copyright owners of mu-
17	sical works for, the right of public performance of their
18	works.".
19	SEC. 4. INTERIM RATE PROCESS.
20	Section 115(c) of title 17, United States Code, is
21	amended by adding at the end the following new para-
22	graph:
23	"(7) Interim rates.—
24	"(A) IN GENERAL.—For any activity for
25	which a license is available under this section.

1	other than an activity for which a license is
2	available under subsection (e), for which a rate
3	and terms have not been determined, any per-
4	son shall, upon serving notice to the copyright
5	owner, have a license under this subsection to
6	engage in the activity, subject to subparagraph
7	(B).
8	"(B) Interim rates.—Upon the filing of
9	an application under subparagraph (A)—
10	"(i) the parties may negotiate an in-
11	terim rate and terms that will apply to the
12	activity under the license; or
13	"(ii) either party or both parties may
14	apply to the Copyright Royalty Judges for
15	an interim rate and terms, in which case—
16	"(I) the Copyright Royalty
17	Judges shall, not later than 15 days
18	after the application is made, publish
19	notice of an expedited proceeding to
20	determine the interim rate and terms;
21	and
22	"(II) the Judges shall determine
23	the interim rate and terms not less
24	than 30 days and not more than 60

days after publishing the notice,through the expedited proceeding.

"(C) APPLICABILITY OF INTERIM RATES.—(i) Interim rates and terms negotiated under subparagraph (B)(i) or established under subparagraph (B)(ii) shall apply to the activity under the license concerned until a rate and terms for the activity are determined under paragraph (3)(C) and chapter 8, or as otherwise agreed by the parties.

"(ii) Interim rates and terms described in subparagraph (A) with respect to an activity by an applicant shall not be treated as precedent in a final ratemaking proceeding. If the Copyright Royalty Judges have established an interim rate and terms under subparagraph (B)(ii), subject to subparagraph (D), that rate and those terms shall apply to the same activity engaged in by any person, except as otherwise agreed to by the parties.

"(D) SINGLE PROCEEDING FOR EACH ACTIVITY.—Unless the Copyright Royalty Judges determine that there is good cause to review an interim rate or terms established under subparagraph (B)(ii), the Copyright Royalty

Judges may conduct only 1 proceeding to determine an interim rate and terms for an activity for which a license is available under this subsection.

"(E) Adjustment of interim rates.—
After a final determination of rates and terms that will apply to an activity for which a license is available under this subsection has been made under paragraph (3)(C) and chapter 8, the final rate and terms shall be retroactive to the inception of the activity under a license between a person and a copyright owner to which the rate and terms apply, unless an agreement between the parties to the license provides otherwise. Not later than 60 days after the determination of the final rate and terms becomes effective—

"(i) the person shall pay to the copyright owner any amounts due from underpayment of fees by the person because the final rate exceeds the interim rate; or

"(ii) the copyright owner shall refund to the person the amounts of any overpayment of fees by the person because the interim rate exceed the final rate, or, at the

1	election of the person, the copyright owner
2	shall credit such overpayment against fu-
3	ture payments by the person to the copy-
4	right owner under this subsection.".
5	SEC. 5. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.
6	(a) Definition.—Section 115(d) of title 17, United
7	States Code, is amended—
8	(1) in the first sentence, by striking "As used"
9	and inserting by adding at the end the following: "."
10	"(1) In general.—As used";
11	(2) by moving the remaining text 2 ems to the
12	right; and
13	(3) by adding at the end the following:
14	"(2) Included activities.—The term 'digital
15	phonorecord delivery' includes—
16	"(A) an interactive stream (as such term is
17	defined in subsection $(e)(16)(F)$ of nondra-
18	matic musical works; and
19	"(B) server and incidental reproductions of
20	nondramatic musical works made to facilitate
21	the deliveries of phonorecords by digital trans-
22	mission described in subparagraph (A) and
23	paragraph (1).".
24	(b) Conforming Amendments.—Section 115(c) of
25	title 17. United States Code, is amended—

1	(1) in paragraph (3)—
2	(A) in the first sentence of subparagraph
3	(A), by striking "or authorize the distribution
4	of";
5	(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking
6	"Such terms and rates shall distinguish" and
7	all that follows through the end of the sentence
8	and
9	(C) in subparagraph (D), by striking
10	"Such terms and rates shall distinguish" and
11	all that follows through the end of the sentence
12	and
13	(2) in paragraph (5)—
14	(A) by striking "(5) Royalty payments'
15	and inserting "(5)(A) Subject to subparagraph
16	(B), royalty payments"; and
17	(B) by adding at the end the following:
18	"(B) Payments under the license provided for
19	under subsection (e) shall be governed by that sub-
20	section in lieu of subparagraph (A).".
21	SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.
22	(a) In General.—Subject to subsection (b), this Act
23	and the amendments made by this Act take effect on the
24	date of the enactment of this Act.

- 1 (b) Delay of Licenses.—No license under sub-
- 2 section (e) of section 115 of title 17, United States Code,
- 3 may take effect before January 1, 2008.
- 4 SEC. 7. SAVINGS CLAUSES.
- 5 (a) LICENSE NOT REQUIRED.—This Act and the
- 6 amendments made by this Act shall not be construed to
- 7 indicate whether an activity for which a license under sec-
- 8 tion 115 of title 17, United States Code, is available, if
- 9 not licensed or otherwise authorized by the copyright
- 10 owner, would constitute an act of copyright infringement.
- 11 (b) FAIR USE.—Nothing in this Act shall affect any
- 12 right, limitation, or defense to copyright infringement, in-
- 13 cluding fair use, under title 17, United States Code.

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